

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7

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September 24, 2007

The Honorable Mike Feuer
Assembly Member, 42nd District
9200 Sunset Boulevard, PH 15
West Hollywood, CA 90069

Dear Assembly Member Feuer:

This is in response to your letter, in which you requested a review of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's request to consider re-striping the northbound route 405 off ramp to Ventura Blvd, back to three lanes.

As you may be aware, this ramp was reconstructed as part of the I-405/ SR-101 Gap Closure project which is improving the flow through this interchange. In order to effect the widening on the freeway, it was necessary to reconstruct the ramp with a tighter radius. This means there is less pavement available, for vehicles, and trucks in particular, to make turns from this ramp. The re-configuration allows for only two lanes at the ramp terminus, while the original configuration allowed for three. The additional space along the right side of the ramp is available for large trucks for making left turns from the right lane exiting the ramp, thus improving safety to motorists using this ramp.

If a third lane were striped at the end of the ramp, it would only accommodate at most 2-3 vehicles, and it is likely this space would not be used as traffic queues develop during red lights. While our observations indicate that there may be some minimal delay to some motorists exiting the ramp, the overall operation of this intersection and the freeway is not being impacted.

Regarding your concern about motorists making right turns using the available space on the right side, we will look into implementing additional striping, or other traffic control devices to discourage vehicles from using this space.

Should you have any additional questions, or suggestions, please contact Frank Quon, Deputy District Director for Operations at, (213) 897-0362.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Failing".

DOUGLAS R. FAILING
District Director